REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the subject application as amended herein. This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed June 9, 2006. Claims 1, 2 and 6-16 are rejected.

In this Amendment, claims 1, 6, 7, 10 and 14 have been amended. Claim 13 has been canceled without prejudice. New claim 17 has been added. It is respectfully submitted that the amendment does not add new matter. Applicants reserve all rights with respect to the applicability of the Doctrine of Equivalents.

IDS

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to consider the references cited in the IDS submitted on July 28, 2005.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 5-8 and 10-11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over McCanne, et al. (USPN 6,415,323, "McCanne") in view of Yamano (USPN 6,314,088) and further in view of Carter, et al. ("On the network impact of dynamic server selection", Computer Networks, 1999, pgs 2529-2558, "Carter"). The Examiner has rejected claims 1-2, 5-8 and 10-11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over McCanne in view of Yamano and further in view of Kavak (USPN 6,687,731). The Examiner has rejected claims 9 and 12-15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over McCanne, Yamano and Carter and in further in view of Kraft (USPN 6,529,939).

Independent claims 1, 7, and 10, as amended, recite that a request for an

information object at an anycast network address comprises <u>a single IP packet that</u>

<u>includes the network layer anycast address.</u>

With respect to this limitation (see rejection of claim 13), the Examiner refers

to McCanne's column 3, lines 57-67 and column 12, lines 25-30, which read as

follows:

> The packet-switched network includes addressable routers for routing packet traffic, wherein a packet of data is routed from a source node to a destination node based on address fields of the packet. The improvement comprises a redirector coupled to at least one of the addressable routers and includes logic for accepting a service request from a client, logic for determining a selected server for handling the service request, the selected server being one of a plurality of servers that can handle the service request, and logic for generating a redirection message directed to the client for redirecting the service request to the selected server.

(McCanne, column 3, lines 57-67).

> Under this configuration, a client request 510 from an arbitrary host 512 in the Internet 508 is routed to the nearest ARN 514 using proximity-based anycast routing. The ARN 514 redirects the client (path 516) to a candidate service node 518 (path 520) using the range of techniques described herein.

(McCanne, column 12, lines 25-30).

Applicants respectfully submit that while McCanne discloses routing data

packets from a source node to a destination node, there is nothing in McCanne to

teach or suggest <u>that a request for an information object at an anycast network</u>

<u>address comprises a single IP packet that includes the network layer anycast</u>

<u>address</u>, as claimed.

Applicants respectfully submit that none of Yamano, Carter, Kraft, or Kavak

teach or suggest the missing limitations. Carter discloses a technique for dynamic

server selection. Yamano discloses a node configuration setup system with servers

hunting through connection-oriented network. Yamano discloses transmitting an

inquiry message containing a client identifier of a requesting client node. (Yamano, col. 4, lines 40-45). Kraft discloses maintaining a repository of summary data about documents associated with document locators. (Kraft, col. 4, lines 42-43). Kavak discloses an arrangement for load sharing in computer networks. (Kavak, col. 1, lines 7-8). None of Yamano, Carter, Kraft, or Kavak teach or suggest that a request for an information object at an anycast network address comprises a single IP packet that includes the network layer anycast address, as claimed.
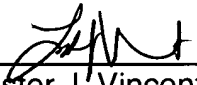
As none of McCanne, Yamano, Carter, Kraft, or Kavak teach or suggest teach or suggest each and every limitation of independent claims 1, 7, and 10, applicants respectfully submit that any combination of these reference does not render obvious independent claims 1, 7, and 10, and associated dependent claims 2, 5-8 and 11-17.

It is respectfully submitted that in view of the amendments and the arguments set forth herein, the applicable rejections and objections have been overcome. If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any fee deficiency that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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